



Community And Shelter Assistance Corporation

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**House Committee on Human Services and Housing  
February 14, 2017  
Hearing on HB 2070**

Testimony from Peter Hainley, Executive Director  
Community and Shelter Assistance Corp. (CASA of Oregon)

Chair Keny-Guyer and members of the Human Services and Housing Committee:

First off, Happy Birthday Oregon and Happy Valentine's Day to all!

For three decades, CASA of Oregon has worked in rural communities to ensure that farmworkers and other low income populations have access to safe, decent and affordable housing. Our work includes new construction and the renovation of existing federally supported housing. CASA has been able to protect rental assistance contracts on hundred of units, ensuring that low income and disabled rural residents are able to continue living in their communities. We also work with the 600+ residents of 11 manufactured home communities to help them form resident-owned cooperatives to purchase and manage their communities.

HB 2070 continues a proven tax credit that has ensured thousand of Oregonians have safe, decent and affordable housing. The program incentivizes the private sector to make below market interest rate loans and the savings is passed directly along to the renters in the form of lower rents. This program has minimal administrative costs and is an excellent example of the public/private partnerships for which Oregon prides itself. It is a great tool that needs to be expanded in order to create more units of affordable housing.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and we encourage the committee to support this bill.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Hainley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Hainley  
Executive Director